

Measuring Michigan's Performance

The information provided on this website tells you how the state performs in areas that affect you and your family. The dashboard below can be used to view Michigan's performance and how it compares with other states. Please provide your feedback and comments to midashboard@michigan.gov.



Measurements of the overall strength of the state's economy

Economic Strength



Benchmarks for future academic success and the well-being of Michigan citizens

Health and Education



Fiscal metrics that show the spending and borrowing of government

Value for Money Government



Population and popularity of outdoor activities

Quality of Life



Crime and traffic injury rates

Public Safety



View the dashboard at-a-glance for a snapshot of the information

MiDashboard At-a-Glance



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Unemployment



GDP



Deficient Bridges



Per capita income



Children in poverty



Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying the same.

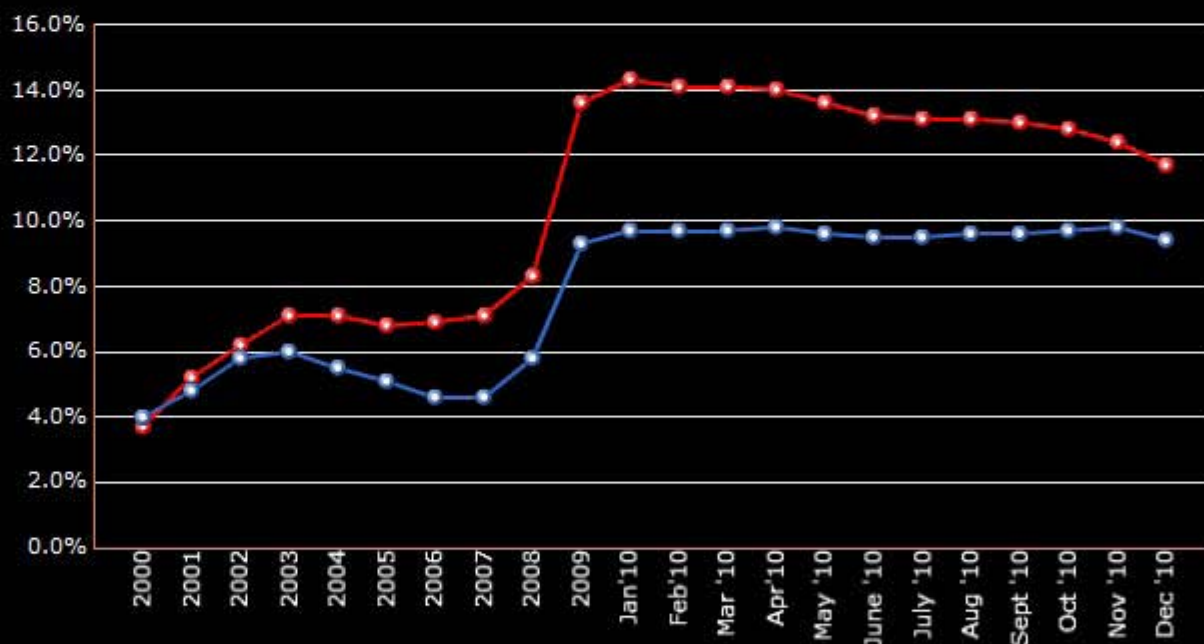
Why It Matters

Unemployment figures measure the number of people without jobs who are actively seeking work. These numbers also reflect the success of the economy in providing opportunities for Michigan residents to support themselves and their families.

Percent Unemployed

Seasonally adjusted

● Michigan ● United States



Michigan Ranking Dec 2010: 47

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Updated monthly

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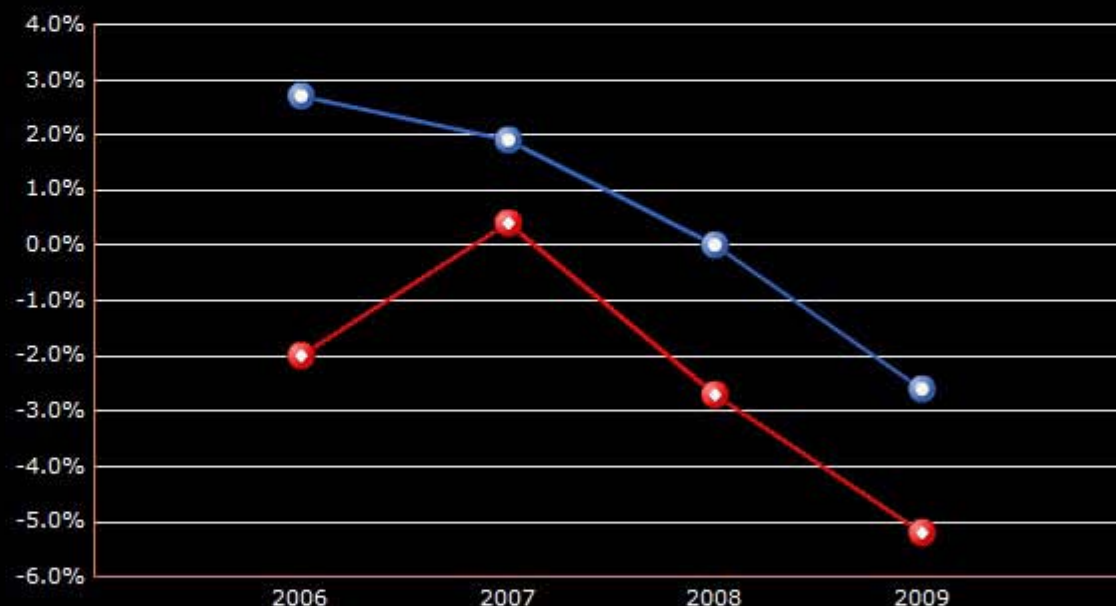
Why It Matters

Economic growth is often measured as the rate of change in per capita gross domestic product (GDP). The GDP refers only to the quantity of goods and services produced. A growing GDP means the economy is expanding, while negative numbers mean the economy is shrinking.

Growth in GDP

Growth in gross domestic product

● Michigan ● United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 49

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Updated annually in June

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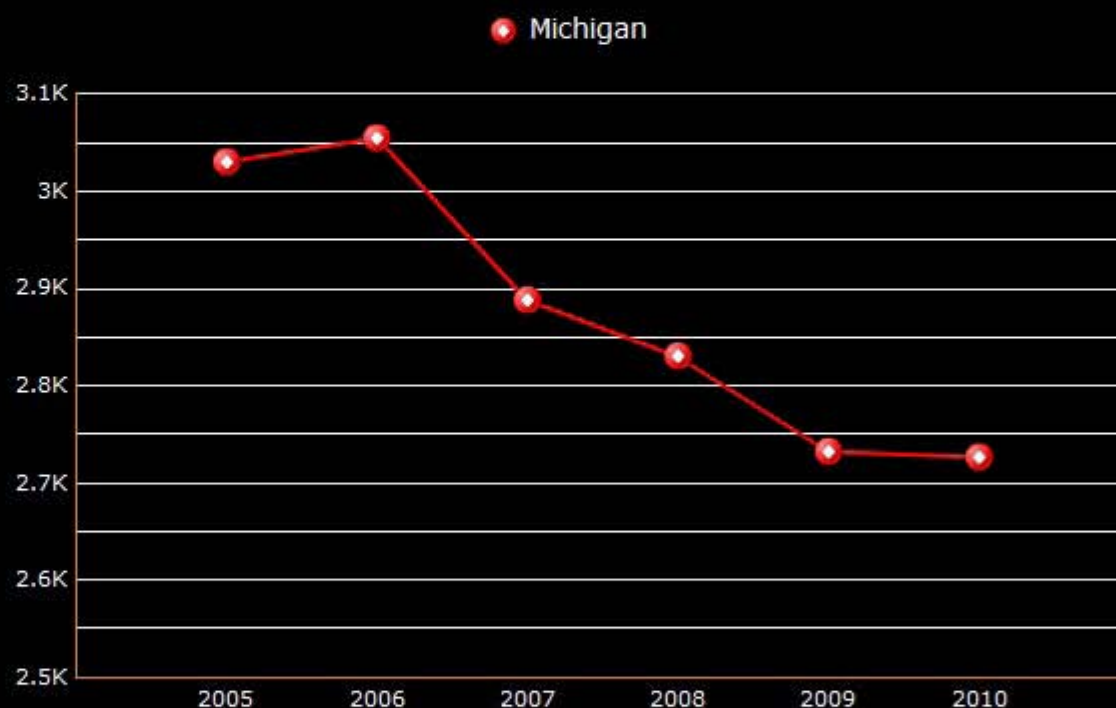


Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying the same.

Why It Matters

A strong transportation infrastructure is important to Michigan's economic health. Transportation and distribution of commercial and industrial goods and materials require sound bridges and well maintained roads. Some bridges are structurally deficient if they have been restricted to light vehicles,

Number of Structurally Deficient and Obsolete Bridges in Michigan



Michigan Ranking 2009: 29

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

Updated annually in February

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Deficient Bridges



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Children in poverty



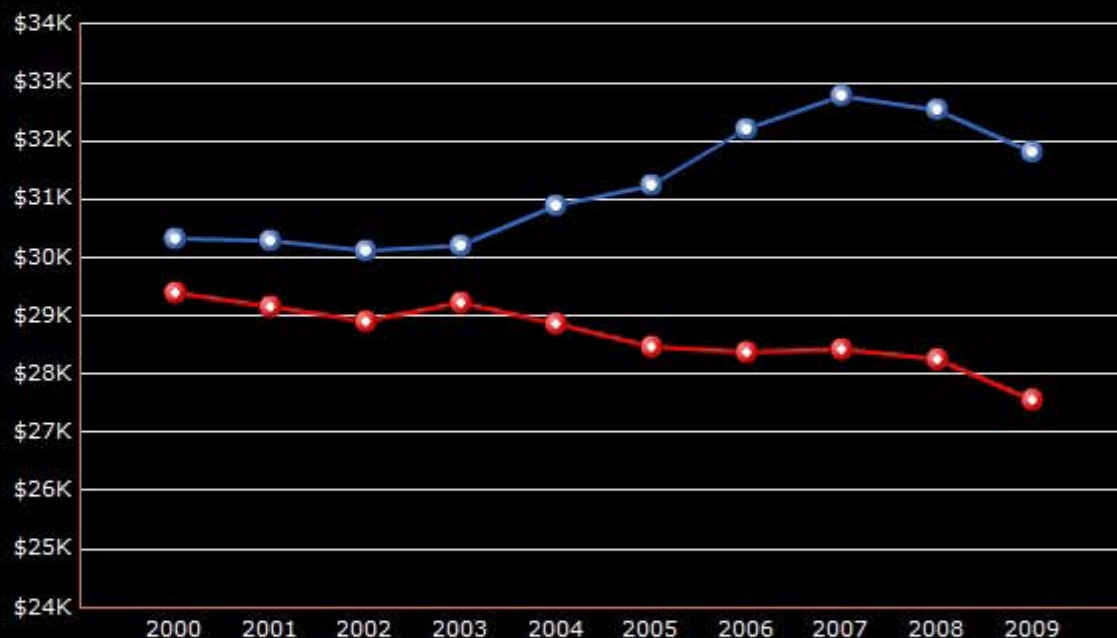
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Why It Matters

This is Michigan's real personal income per capita, adjusted for inflation. In general, per capita income in Michigan has not kept up with inflation over the past few years. Real personal income per capita includes wages and salaries, transfer payments, dividends, interest and rental income. As income rises, individuals are better

Real Personal Income Per Capita

● Michigan ● United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 37

Source: Michigan Department of Treasury, Office of Revenue and Tax Analysis

Updated annually in November

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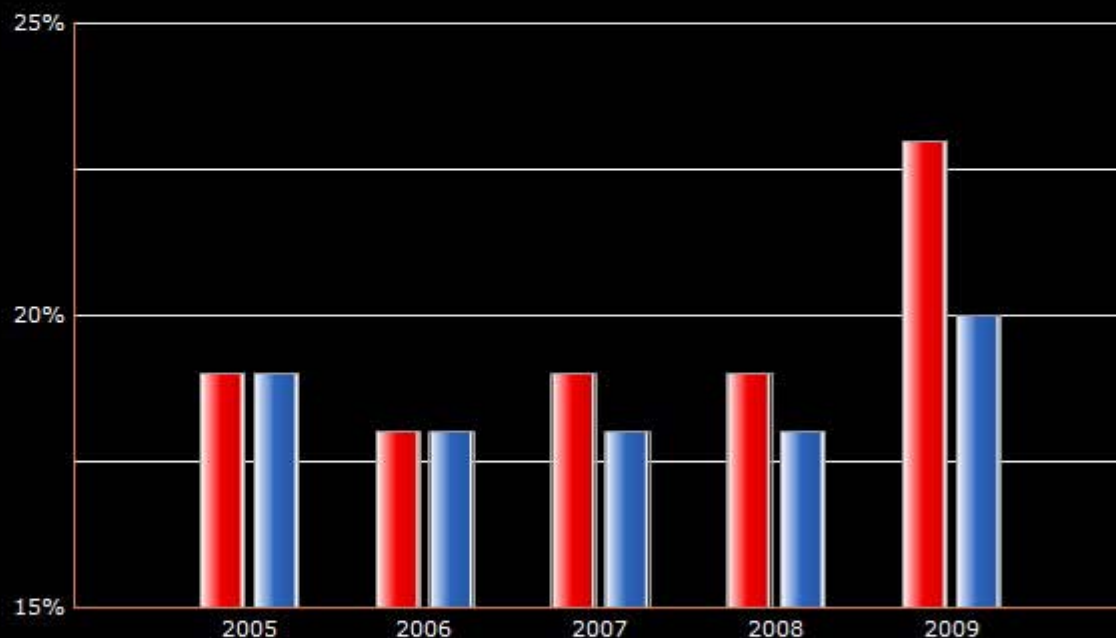
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Why It Matters

Across the nation, families are struggling to make ends meet. Many parents are unable to provide their children with the basic food, clothing and medical care they need. Children who live in poverty are more likely to have low academic achievement and health, behavioral and emotional problems. This measure shows the

Percent of Children Living in Poverty

Michigan United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 38

Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center

Updated annually in January

Health and Education

- [Infant mortality](#)
- [Obesity](#)
- [Third grade reading](#)
- [College readiness](#)
- [Higher education](#)

Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

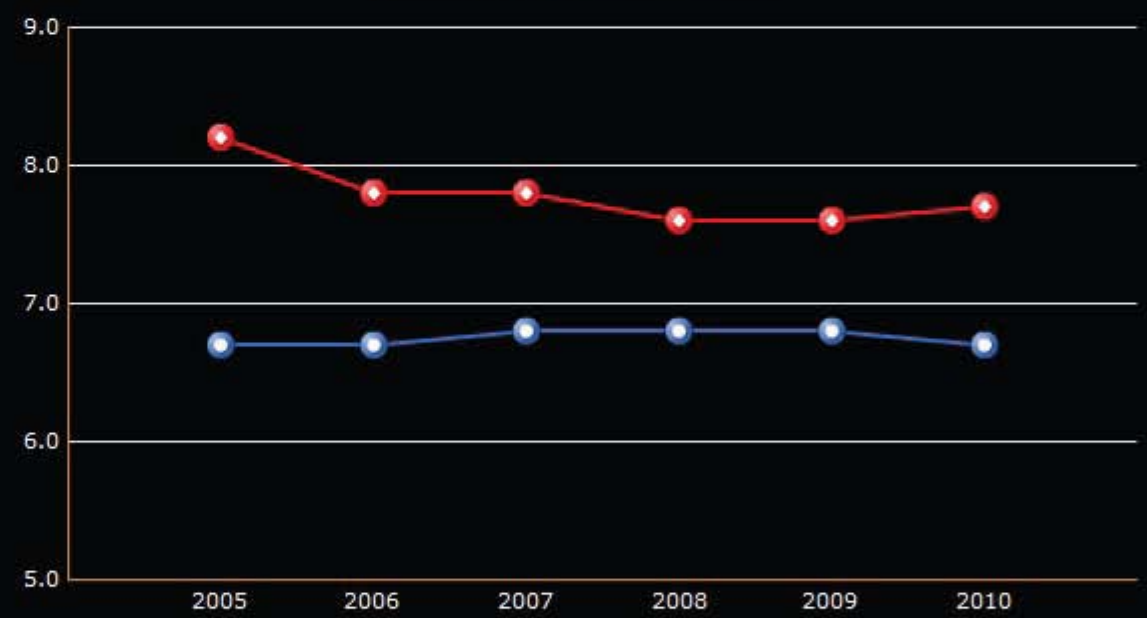
Why It Matters

Infant mortality is a critical indicator of the overall health and welfare of Michigan and the quality and accessibility of prenatal care for women. The infant mortality rate represents the number of infant deaths before age one per 1,000 live births.

Infant Mortality

Rate of infant deaths per 1,000 live births

Michigan United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 37

Source: America's Health Rankings

Updated annually in January

Health and Education

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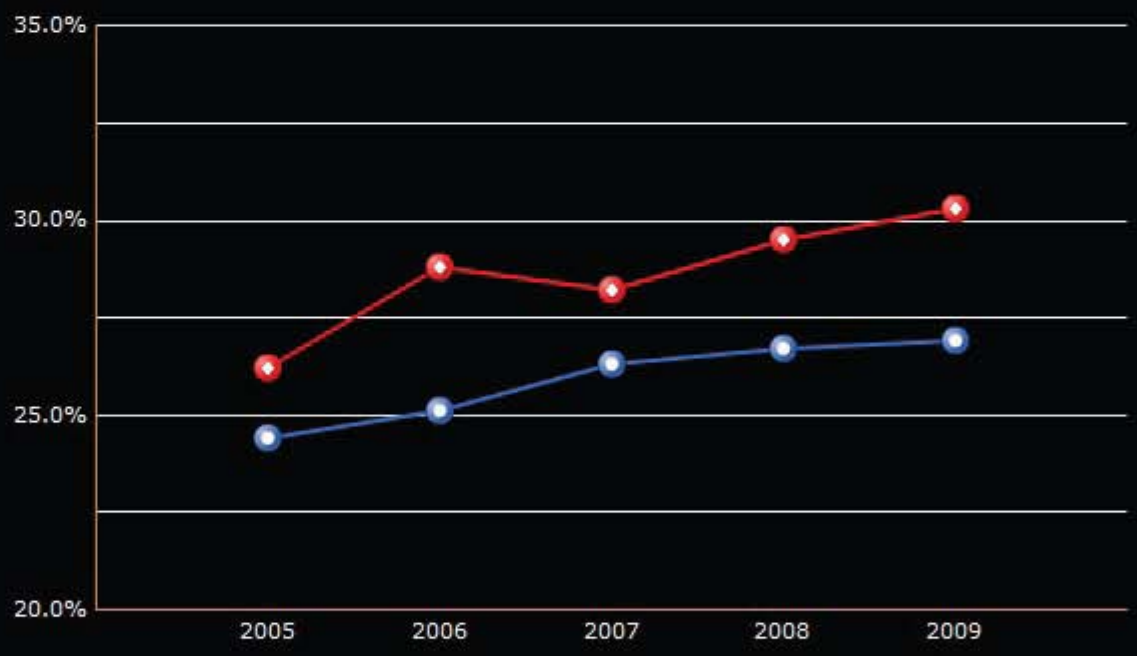
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Why It Matters

Obesity is a major contributor to cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes. It also negatively impacts public health costs and educational outcomes. Individuals with a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or greater are considered obese. Weight and height are used to calculate BMI, which provides a reasonable indicator of body fat

Obesity in the Population

Michigan United States








Michigan ranking 2009: 40

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Updated annually in July

Health and Education

- Infant mortality 
- Obesity 
- Third grade reading 
- College readiness 
- Higher education 

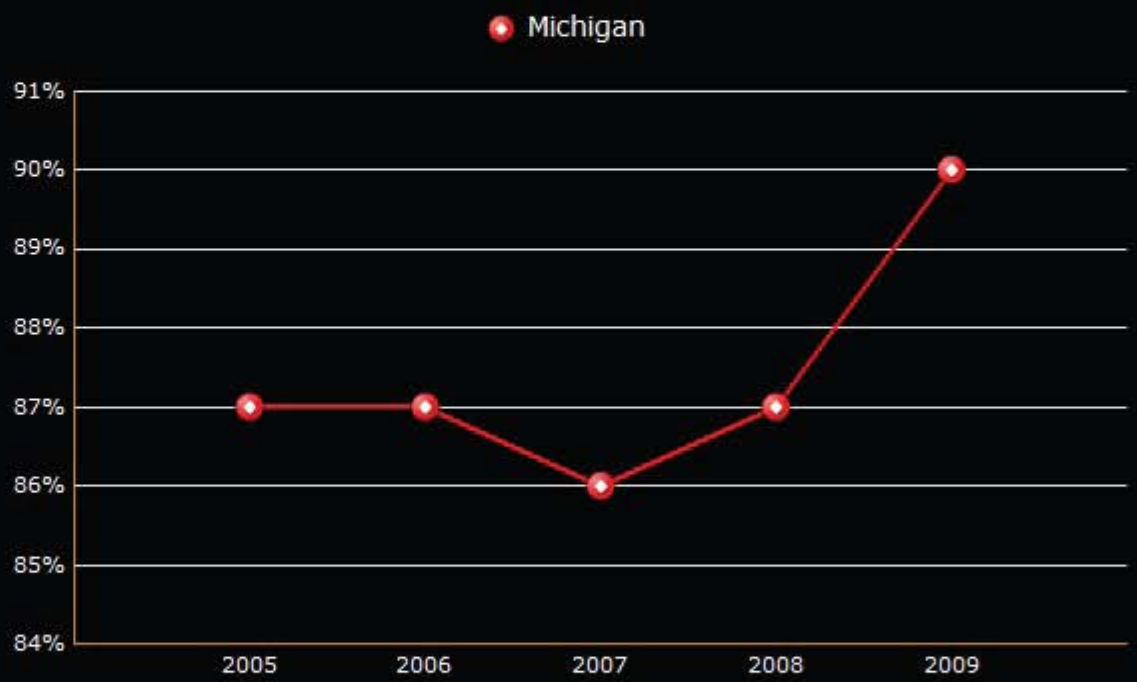
Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

Why It Matters

Michigan's Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test measures student achievement in math, science, reading, social studies and writing. The test results compare student and school achievement with the standards established by the Michigan Board of Education.

Reading Capability of Third Graders

Percentage of 3rd graders meeting reading expectations



Source: Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Educational Assessment Program

Updated annually in April

Health and Education

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- Obesity
- Third grade reading
- College readiness
- Higher education

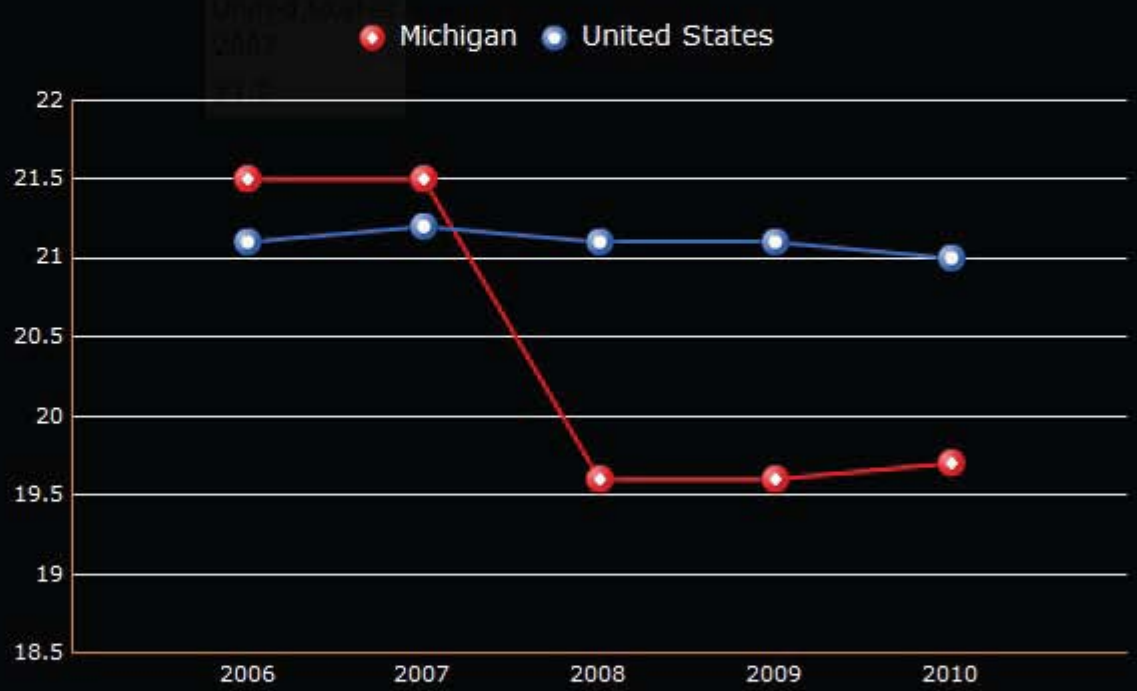
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Why It Matters

The ACT (American College Testing) uses multiple-choice tests in English, math, reading and science to assess high school students' general educational development and their capability to complete college-level work. Students meeting benchmarks on the ACT tests have a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in

College Readiness

Average ACT scores








Michigan Ranking 2010: 46

Source: ACT National and State Scores

Updated annually in October

Health and Education

- Infant mortality 
- Obesity 
- Third grade reading 
- College readiness 
- Higher education 

Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

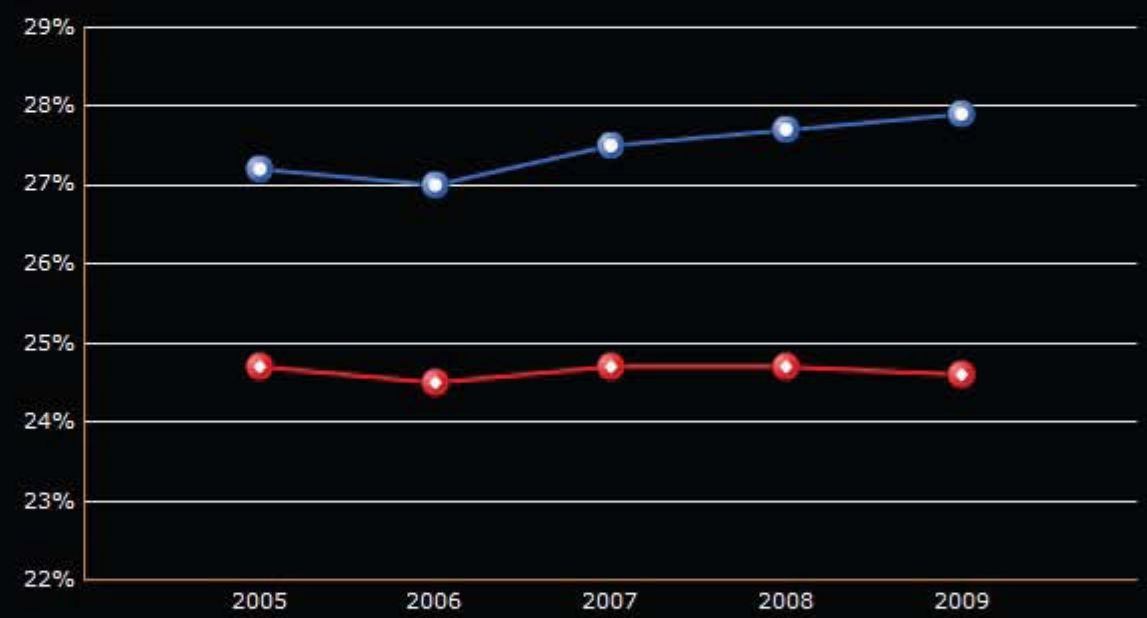
Why It Matters

College graduation is one measure of the success of our post-secondary education system. High college enrollment and the number of students receiving degrees contribute to the quality of the state's workforce.

Population with Bachelor's Degree or Higher

Percentage of population 25 years and over

 Michigan  United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 36

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder

Updated annually in January

Value for Government

Bond rating	
Debt burden	
Operating cost	
Access to government	

Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

Why It Matters

Michigan's bond or credit rating is a measure of its financial reputation. A good credit rating enables a state to borrow money for construction projects and other needs at the most competitive rates available. This saves millions of taxpayer dollars in interest payments.

Bond Rating - Standard & Poor's

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
AA	AA-	AA-	AA-	AA-

Legend:
The general meaning of Standard & Poor's credit rating opinions:
'AAA' – Extremely strong capacity to meet financial commitments. Highest rating.
'AA' – Very strong capacity to meet financial commitments.
'A' – Strong capacity to meet financial commitments, but somewhat susceptible to adverse economic conditions and changes in circumstances.
'BBB' – Adequate capacity to meet financial commitments, but more subject to adverse economic conditions.

Source: Michigan Department of Treasury

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Value for Government

Bond rating



Debt burden



Operating cost



Access to government



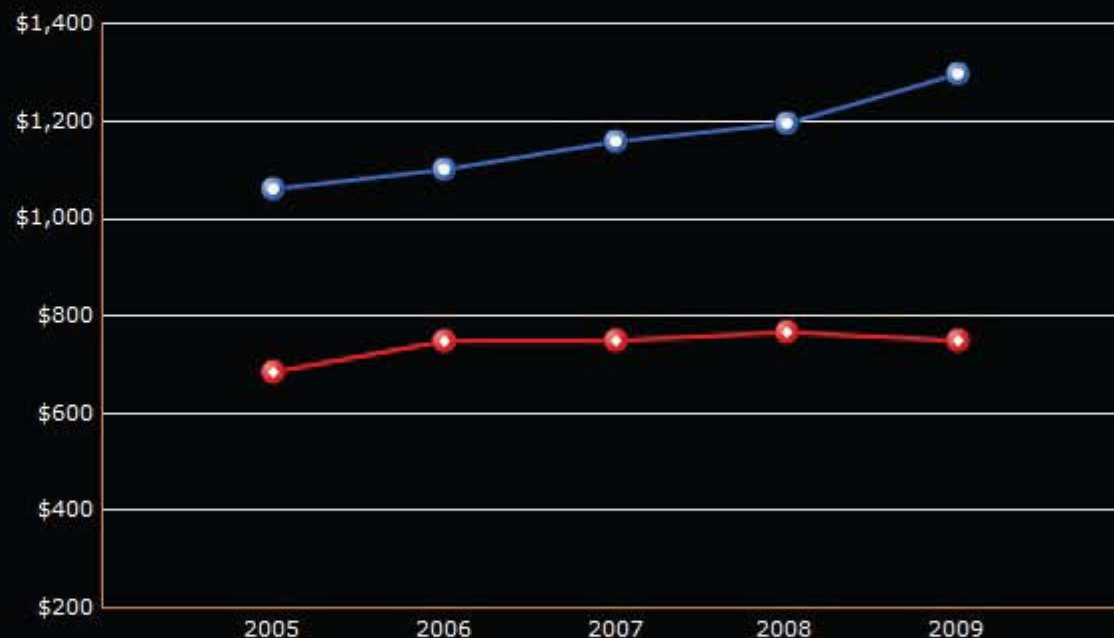
Arrows show whether performance is improving,
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Why It Matters

Michigan issues long-term debt to build highways, improve the environment and construct new buildings on college and university campuses, among other large projects. Its debt burden is the cost of servicing this debt.

Government Debt Burden Per Capita

● Michigan ● United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 34

Source: Moody's Investor Service, Annual Reports

Updated annually in September

Value for Government

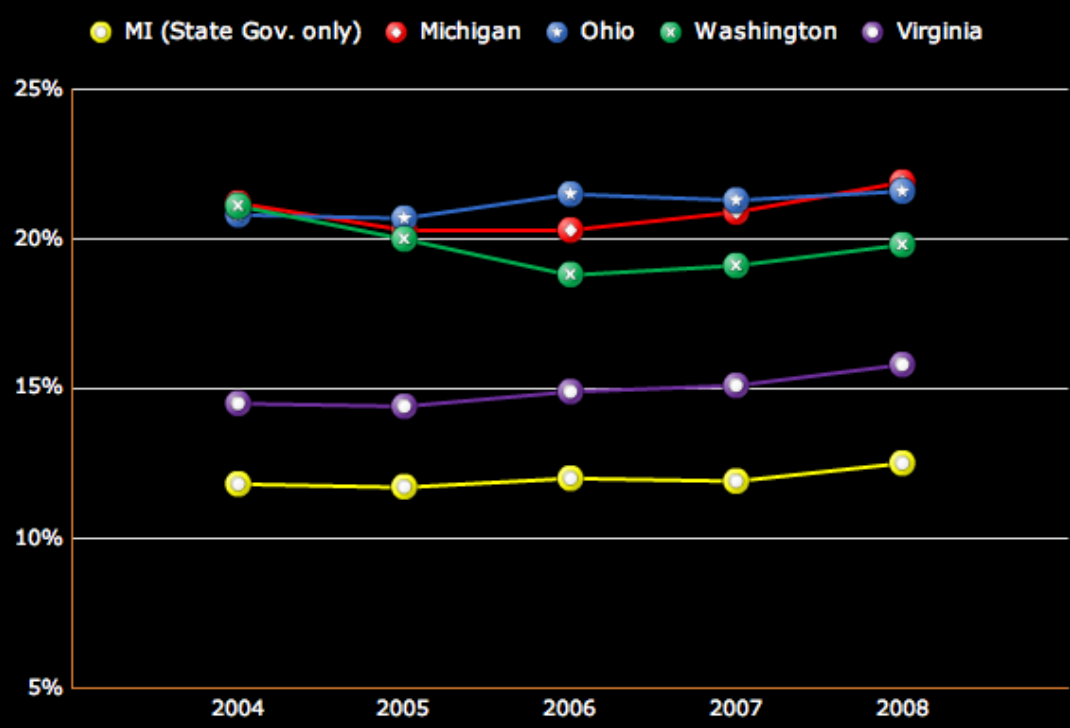
- Bond rating
- Debt burden
- Operating cost
- Access to government

Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

Why It Matters

All public entities strive to keep costs low and make the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars. Michigan continues to explore ways to provide high-quality services to residents at the lowest possible cost.

Government Operating Cost (State & Local) as a Percent of State Gross Domestic Product



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Federal, State and Local Governments

Updated annually in August

Value for Government

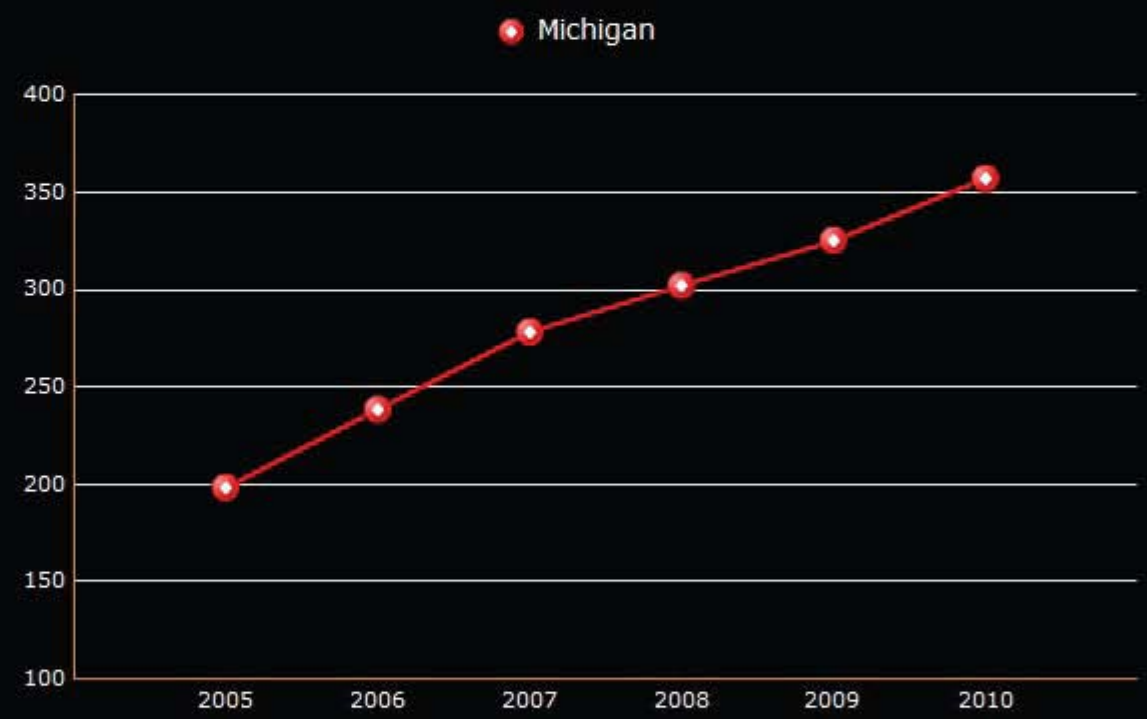
- Bond rating
- Debt burden
- Operating cost
- [Access to government](#)

Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

Why It Matters

In an effort to provide around-the-clock access to government, Michigan continues to add online services, available anywhere at any time. Online services provide additional options for citizens to interact with government and allow for more efficient operations.

Access to State Government – Number of Online Services



Source: Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget

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Quality of Life

- State parks
- Population growth
- Surface water quality

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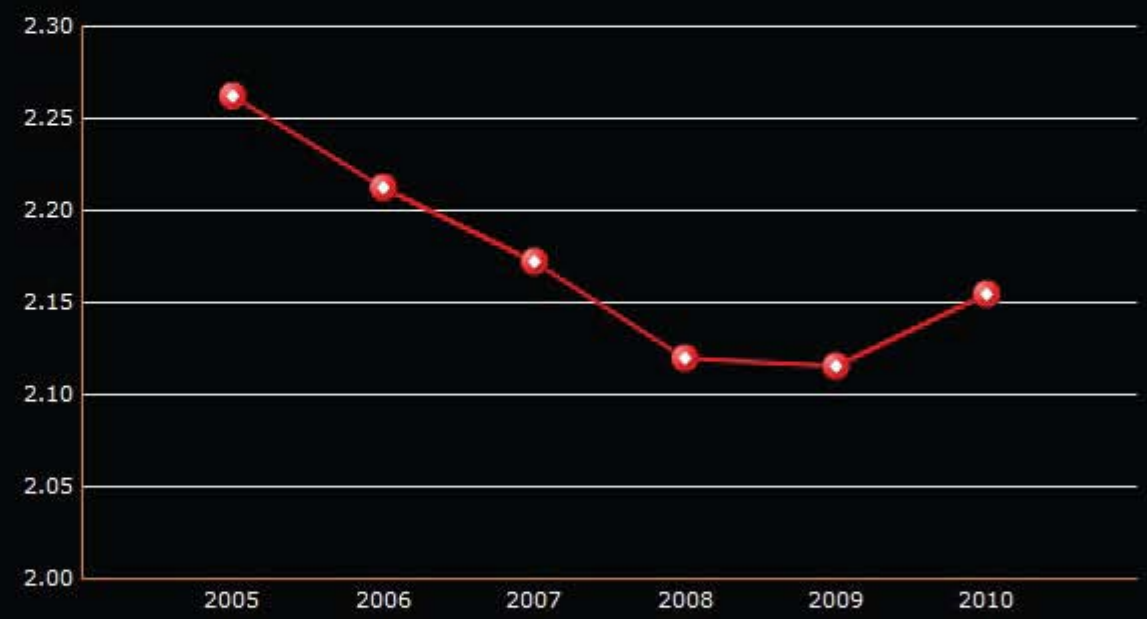
Why It Matters

The 98 parks and recreation areas in Michigan's state park system offer residents and visitors from other states and nations the opportunity to experience scenic forests, trails, lakes and historic sites. Michigan's natural areas are a prime destination for camping, fishing, boating, hiking, bicycling and a host of other outdoor activities. The number of annual

State Park Popularity

Number of annual visits per citizen to state parks

Michigan



Source: Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment

Updated annually in January

Quality of Life

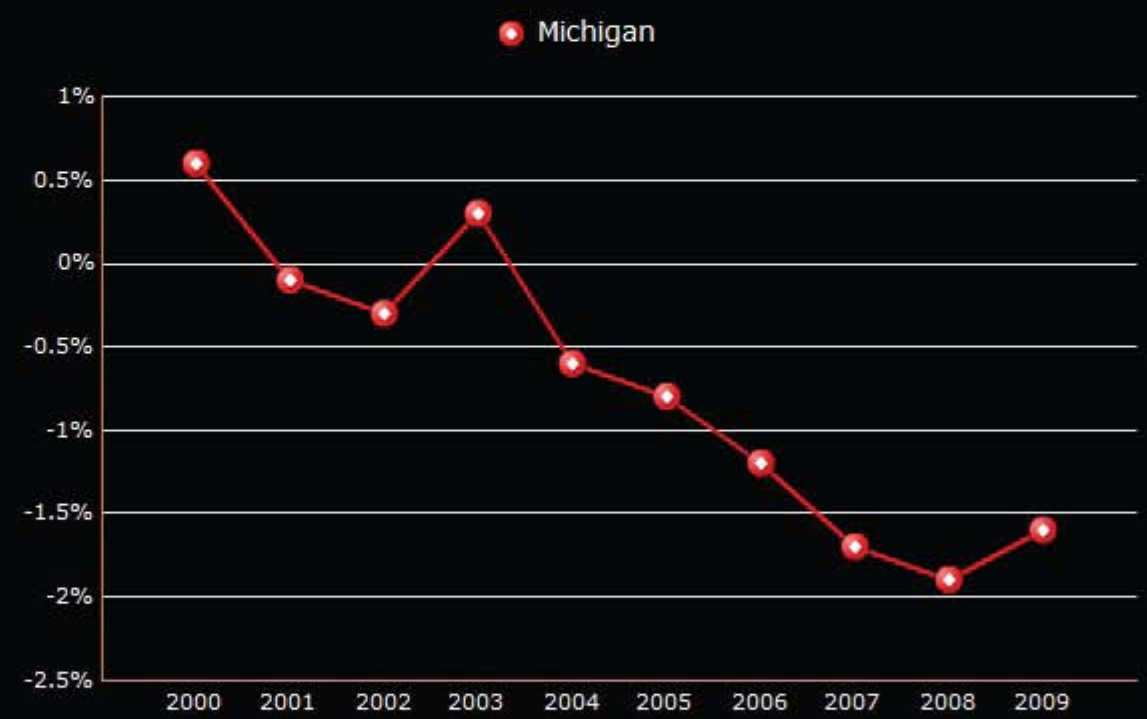
- State parks
- Population growth
- Surface water quality

Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

Why It Matters

The number of people between the ages of 25 and 34 provide a significant contribution to a healthy economy. A growing population in this age group may mean that more people are choosing to live and work in Michigan. Above zero means a growth in this population group, less than zero means a decline.

Percentage Change in Population Ages 25-34



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Updated annually in October

Quality of Life

- State parks
- Population growth
- Surface water quality

Arrows show whether performance is improving, declining or staying about the same.

Why It Matters

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) reports good results for all the state's monitored waters. The department's ability to assess waters for quality standards, however, is limited. The DNRE continues to look for creative approaches and obtain the resources needed to address water

Clean and Safe Water Resources in Michigan

Measure: 100 percent of monitored surface waters attain assessed standards

Results: A water quality index (WQI) based on the percentage of monitored inland lakes, rivers and beaches that attained all assessed standards was developed. Each index is generally based on data from the preceding five years. The index ranges from 0-100. Results do not include problems that are caused by mercury and PCB.

2006 WQI: 83 2008 WQI: 88

Source: Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment

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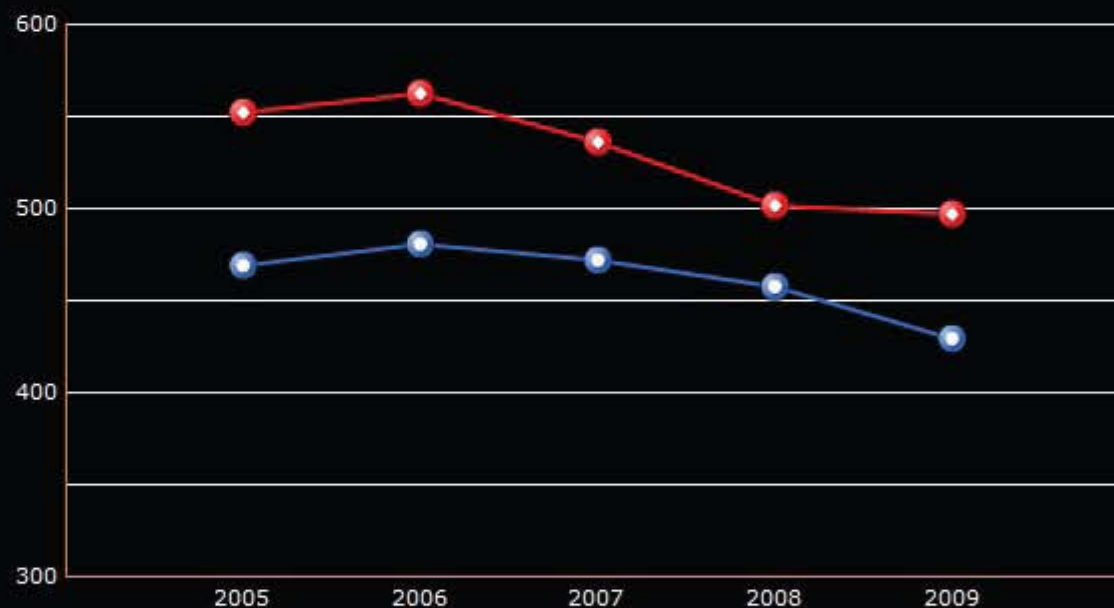
Why It Matters

Crime rates affect the sense of security citizens have about their community. These rates also can influence business investment and residential development. Violent crimes are those offenses that involve force or threat of force and include aggravated assault, robbery, forcible rape, and murder.

Violent Crime Rates

Violent crimes per 100,000 population

● Michigan ● United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 38

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports

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Property crimes



Traffic incidents



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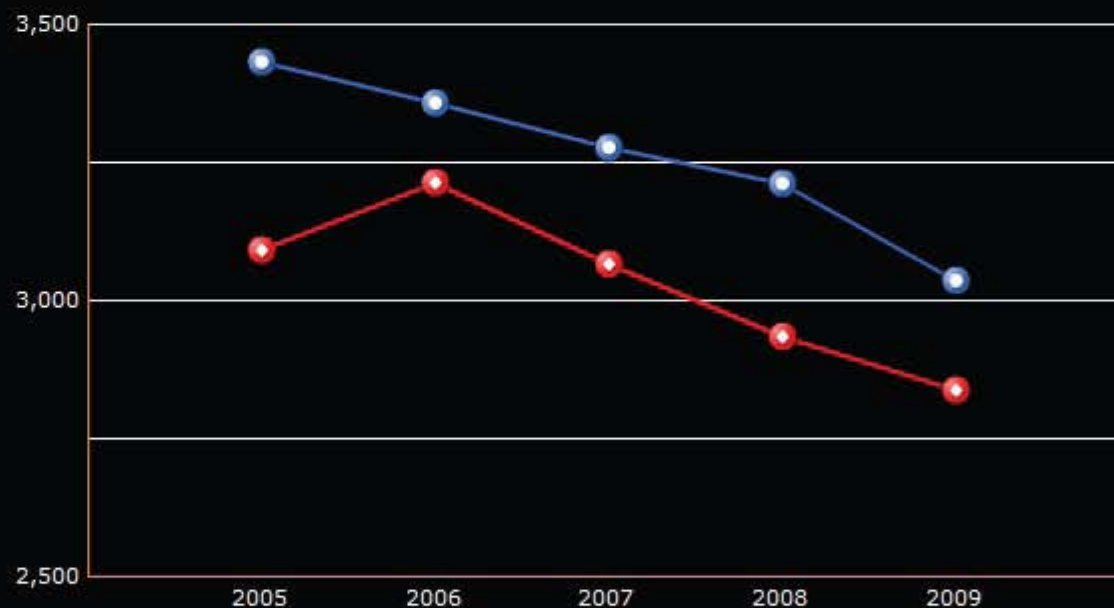
Why It Matters

The effects of property crimes can contribute to deteriorating neighborhoods and declining property values. Property crimes include the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Property Crime Rates

Property crimes per 100,000 population

Michigan United States



Michigan Ranking 2009: 25

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports

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Public Safety

Violent crimes



Property crimes



Traffic incidents



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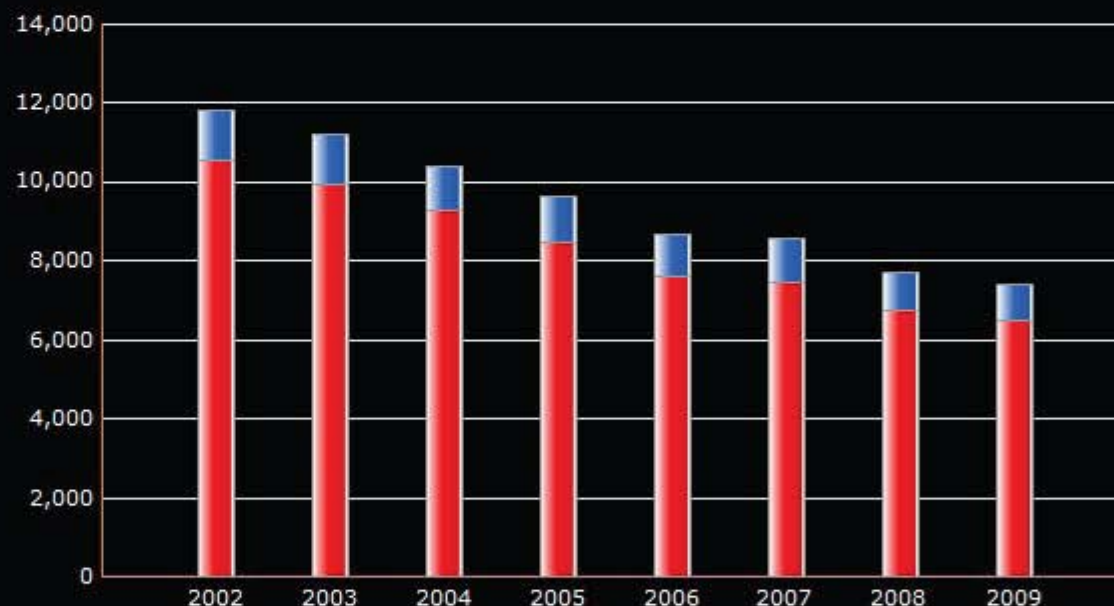
Why It Matters

Traffic accidents that cause serious injuries can change lives in an instant. Families across the state struggle with the long-term medical and work-loss costs that result from these accidents.

Traffic Injuries

Individuals fatally or seriously injured in traffic accidents

■ Michigan Serious Injuries ■ Michigan Fatalities



Source: Michigan State Police, Traffic Crash Reporting Section

Updated annually in May